

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	MIN	MAX	WIND	WEATHER
AMSTERDAM	4	30	6	40
BRUSSELS	3	27	9	40
BUFFALO	22	72	31	80
CHICAGO	22	72	31	80
COPENHAGEN	5	41	7	45
FRANKFURT	8	48	10	50
GENEVA	8	41	3	35
HELSINKI	2	28	2	30
HONG KONG	17	30	17	60
JOHANNESBURG	17	30	17	60
LONDON	7	45	18	64
MADRID	7	45	18	64
MONTREAL	18	58	23	60
NEW YORK	2	28	10	50
OSLO	1	30	6	40
PARIS	9	48	11	50
RIO DE JANEIRO	22	72	31	80
SAO PAULO	20	68	23	70
STOCKHOLM	2	30	7	45
TOKYO	3	27	14	50
TORONTO	4	31	10	50
ZURICH	8	42	13	55

For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair
Offices in Israel:
Tel Aviv, 53 Ben Yehuda St. (03) 243355
Jerusalem, 30 Jaffa St. (02) 225233
Haifa, 2 Sea Road (04) 84655

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: fair to partly cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	47	-1 - 9	10
Haifa	33	-1 - 9	10
Nahariya	33	-1 - 9	10
Safed	73	0 - 7	8
Haifa Port	17	—	—
Tiberias	58	3 - 14	15
Nazareth	50	-12 - 13	13
Afula	52	6 - 14	15
Shimon	56	2 - 10	11
Tel Aviv	45	2 - 14	15
B-G Airport	41	2 - 14	15
Jericho	40	2 - 17	18
Qana	55	5 - 14	15
Hebron	45	2 - 13	15
Latit	26	3 - 18	20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The annual convention of the Skai Clubs of Israel held at the Avia Sonesta Hotel, Eilat, last weekend, elected the following national committee for 1983: president Alfred Ze'ev Kis, immediate past president Yacov Rifman, vice-president Menachem Rotstein, vice-president and public relations, Uzi Werner, hon. secretary Jonny Kern, hon. treasurer Edith Reifer, member J. Eliezer, member Poms, international counsellor Maurice Cassuto, deputy international counsellor Haim Avissar.

Rabbi Hyman R. Rabinowitz, formerly of Sioux City, Iowa, and a Jerusalem resident since 1960, will be honoured on his 90th birthday at a reception at 8 p.m. tonight at the Centre for Conservative Judaism, 2 Rehov Agon, Jerusalem.

Savior criticizes

European Parliament

Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor wrote a sharp letter last week to the president of the European Parliament, Pieter Dankert, criticizing its recent resolution in favour of a Palestinian Arab state. Savidor called the resolution a "deviation" and reminded Dankert that it flouted the policy of most European governments.

A delegation of the European Parliament opened an annual dialogue in Jerusalem on February 13. Meanwhile the Associated Press reported from Strasbourg, that the parliamentary assembly of the 21-nation Council of Europe passed a resolution Thursday night calling on the Soviet Union to allow more Jews to emigrate.

Youth Aliya marks

50th anniversary

President Yitzhak Navon today will kick off festivities marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of Youth Aliya at a get-together at the president's residence in Jerusalem. Streets will be named for Youth Aliya in various towns and a mass rally in the Yarkon Park will take place in May.

Kibbutznik detained

by Mozambique police

EIN ZIVAN (Iim). — Members of this Golan Heights kibbutz are worried about the fate of member Amikam Efrati, 27, who was arrested several months ago by the Mozambique authorities. He and his Danish girlfriend were arrested on the Mozambique-Malawi border on suspicion of being South African spies. The Danish girl has since been released. The Israel Foreign Ministry is trying through third parties to obtain Efrati's release.

Tel Aviv gems heist

TEL AVIV (Iim). — Thieves broke into a diamond-cutting workshop in Rehov Misgar during the weekend and escaped with jewels reported to be worth more than IS2 million.

HOME NEWS

Mubarak reaffirms his commitment to peace

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has reassured a delegation of American Jewish leaders that he remains committed to the peace process with Israel. He also is convinced that Jordan's King Hussein and the PLO's Yasser Arafat are moving toward accepting President Ronald Reagan's September 1 peace initiative as a basis for negotiations with Israel. "Arafat is a very moderate man," he said. "He is convinced of the (Reagan) initiative. They may speak of the Fez initiative, but they support the Reagan initiative."

Winding up a visit here on Friday, Mubarak said Lebanon's Bekaa Valley is more important to Syrian President Hafez Assad than either the Golan Heights or the West Bank. Still, he insisted, Syria would agree to withdraw simultaneously with Israel from Lebanon because Syria does not want to fight Israel again. "I know," Mubarak said, "I was an air force commander."

The Egyptian leader received some 30 Jewish leaders at the Egyptian Embassy on Friday morning. Later, several of them said they had been reassured by what they heard. "I think it went very well, very cordial," said

Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress. That opinion was echoed by Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who said that he was "reassured by Mr. Mubarak's commitment to the peace process."

Bronfman and Berman said their delegation had expressed to Mubarak their unhappiness over the recent spate of "anti-Semitic" articles and cartoons appearing in the Egyptian news media. "He (Mubarak) quite assured us that there was some problem in the public opinion in Egypt but basically he is a staunch believer in peace and the peace treaty with Israel is in no danger," said Bronfman.

Mubarak said he had to recall Egypt's ambassador from Tel Aviv to assuage public opinion in Egypt after the Sabra and Shatilla massacres. He repeatedly insisted that that was the "minimum" he could have done.

During the nearly one-hour, closed door meeting with the Jewish leaders, Mubarak was reminded that Lebanese Christian militiamen had actually committed the massacres — and not Israelis. In response, Mubarak said that only "history" would show who actually pulled the triggers.

Later in the day, Mubarak met with some 40 invited American reporters at the Egyptian embassy.

It was during that session that Mubarak spoke optimistically about the prospects for Hussein and Arafat agreeing to the composition of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to peace negotiations with Israel, based on the Reagan initiative. Mubarak expressed confidence that the Palestine National Council would ratify such a step at its next meeting in Algiers, scheduled for February 14.

The sole remaining problem, Mubarak said, was "with the differing PLO factions that take different positions and are contradicting each other publicly." If the PLO does not give Hussein the green light, Mubarak said, "they will lose a lot."

The Egyptian leader said Hussein was doing his best to win PLO support to join the negotiations. "He is really trying," he said.

Mubarak said the next year was critical in the peace process because 1984 was an American election year.

Regarding the stalled troop withdrawal negotiations in Lebanon, Mubarak said that Assad still wants to see "a greater Syria." At the same time, however, the Syrian leader fears Israel and would leave Lebanon at the same time as the Israeli forces.

After his visits to the U.S. and Canada, Mubarak will go to London on Wednesday and Thursday, and then go to Paris.



Young neo-Nazis wearing masks and armed with sticks on Friday, patrol a fenced-in area near Mainz, West Germany, where several neo-Nazi assemblies have been held in the past. Demonstrators for peace and disarmament have announced a four-day siege of the grounds on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Hitler's coming to power. (UPI telephoto)

Germans mark 50th year since Hitler came to power

FRANKFURT (AP). — Carrying banners proclaiming "Fascism: Never again," tens of thousands of people gathered in West German cities yesterday to mark the 50th anniversary of Adolf Hitler's rise to power.

memorating the Hitler anniversary, police said. Hitler was named as Chancellor on January 30, 1933 in what Germans now call the Machtergreifung (power grab).

In Hamburg, labour union leader Guenter Doeding warned against today's neo-Nazis, who the government estimates number about 1,250. These people spread the "spiritual rubbish of the Nazi barbarism, they ridicule social democracy, mock the victims of violent crimes and are themselves capable of repulsive acts of violence," Doeding said.

In Cologne, 12,000 people gathered, many of them young and carrying signs reading "Never again war," police said. In Frankfurt, some 8,000 people used the anniversary to demonstrate for a variety of causes, including opposition to nuclear weapons.

Speakers at demonstrations in Frankfurt, Hamburg, Munich and Cologne warned against the activities of modern neo-Nazis and the danger that West Germany's growing ranks of unemployed will turn to extremist political groups. In one incident hauntingly reminiscent of street battles between Communists and Hitler's stormtroopers 50 years ago, two persons were arrested in street fights in Munich. The fighting started when about 50 people dressed in "punk" attire attacked a gathering of Communist and other left-leaning groups who were com-

memorating the Hitler anniversary, police said. Hitler was named as Chancellor on January 30, 1933 in what Germans now call the Machtergreifung (power grab).

Kreisky aide, Syrians discuss Israeli POWs

Jerusalem Post Reporter

PLO official Issam Sartawi says a special representative of Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky recently visited Damascus to discuss the fate of Israeli prisoners held by Syria. Sartawi also reportedly said that Arab contacts with Israel about a possible exchange of prisoners were

"humanitarian, not political" in character. Sartawi was speaking on Radio Monte Carlo.

Jordan TV, in a Hebrew broadcast yesterday, said that the fate of the Israeli prisoners in PLO hands would be discussed in a fortnight during the meeting in Algiers of the Palestine National Council with "Israeli delegates."

West Bank document supports Reagan plan

TEL AVIV (Iim). — Hikmet el-Masri, former Speaker of the Jordanian parliament, said last night that important personalities in the West Bank and Gaza have signed a statement at their own initiative supporting a rapprochement between the PLO and Jordan, the Fez resolutions and the Reagan peace plan.

statement which he had launched, represent most of the political opinions in the areas.

He said he personally believed the Rejection Front was mistaken in rejecting solutions to the Palestinian problem. "We should be realistic and I believe the Fez resolutions and the Reagan plan are beneficial to a solution of the Palestinian problem."

Speaking on Israel TV's Arabic programme, el-Masri, a leading West Bank dignitary from Nablus, said the people who signed the

FATAH STRUGGLE

(Continued from Page One) are opposed to Arafat's diplomatic strategy that the military option has not been ruled out, and can in fact be exercised concurrently with diplomacy.

Samir Goshé of the Popular Struggle Front (PSF), and Issa Kadi of the Syrian-backed Saika.

The fact that the meeting took place in South Yemen — along with Syria, Libya and Algeria, a member of the Arab Rejection Front — would also account for the militant tone of the final communiqué.

If this report is accurate, the absence of Habash is of some significance, as there were conflicting reports earlier this month as to whether or not he had endorsed the anti-Arafat position taken in Libya by four other PLO hardliners.

There are, however, no signs that Arafat has abandoned his diplomatic strategy. His series of meetings in Aden earlier last week with PLO leaders, unlike that last month, was accordingly boycotted by those radicals most opposed to that strategy.

As leader of the second largest faction in the PLO, his position at next month's Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers will be of importance — but not, according to many observers, critical, in view of the overwhelming predominance of Fatah in the PLO.

According to a Reuters report from Bahrain yesterday, the absent leaders were George Habash of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), Nayef Hawatmeh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP),

Next month's meeting of the PNC, which is the only body authorized to change PLO policy, is expected to prove crucial to the future course of the organization by determining whether or not Arafat does have sufficient support to defy the hardliners and proceed with his current diplomatic offensive.

SHARON-SOVIETS

(Continued from Page One)

dent, Senate Republican majority leader Howard Baker said that Israel, perhaps, should start talking with the Soviet Union. "Obviously, I would have no problem with Sharon talking to the Soviets," Baker said. "We talk to the Soviets. We ought to talk more around the world with our adversaries, or potential ones."

withdraw from Lebanon if progress is not achieved in the negotiations more quickly. The newspaper said it did not presume that the Israeli government was stalling in the Lebanese talks in order to wait for the 1984 U.S. presidential election year — as is commonly alleged in the U.S.

Baker, however, went on to reflect a widespread irritation in the U.S. with the Sharon statement. "I don't know what Sharon has in mind," he said. "I get the impression sometimes that we're in a great big poker game right now, and each side is sort of bidding for the favours of the other. It's time to stop that and get down to business. We've got to find a solution to the problem of the Middle East...I would not be put off by the Sharon suggestion that he talk to the Russians. I would not be frightened by it. Certainly I would not be intimidated by it."

"In any event," the editorial concluded, "its strategy should be clear enough soon, from the way the talks go in Lebanon. If the Israelis are playing a game, then, of course, Mr. Reagan will have no choice but to drop the supposition that Israel is a nation that can be appealed to on the basis of reason and common interest."

The Washington Post, in a lead editorial yesterday, suggested that the U.S. might have to impose stronger pressure on Israel to

Nine persons were killed, 69 seriously injured and 121 lightly injured in 120 traffic accidents on the country's roads during the past week.

Among the dead were four pedestrians, two of them minors. (Iim)

W FORCE DETECTED

(Continued from Page One)

results Wednesday at the annual meeting of the American Physical Society, reported finding only five "clean events" in the debris of a particle collision in the accelerator, at CERN, indicating the presence of W particles.

The Nobel Prize for physics in 1979 went to scientists Steven Weinberg and Sheldon Glashow of the U.S., and Abdus Salam of Pakistan, who developed the "electroweak theory."

In Haifa, Minister of Science and Technology, Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, said on Thursday that he had been informed by cable by Schopper of the discovery. Ne'eman had previously worked with many of the scientists involved in the search for new subatomic particles. Ne'eman characterized the discovery "as scientifically more important than the splitting of the atom."

The CERN experiments, Antoine said, "means they will not have to give back their Nobel Prize."

He said that at this stage it was difficult to forecast the practical applications of the discovery, but he compared this situation with the one that held when the principle of electricity was first discovered.

Among the processes in which the "weak force" plays a major role are the sun's energy production and the creation of radioactivity.

Ne'eman was speaking at the opening ceremony of the new museum of technology in Haifa, the Technodea. Prof. Gad Eilam of the Technion's Physics Department also used the electricity analogy to explain the importance of the new theoretical breakthrough.

A second group of researchers at CERN, in competition with Rubbia's group, reported at the same time finding four "events" that might be W particle "tracks," but did not claim this as definite proof. In reporting the finding, Allan Rothberg of CERN said only that the "events" were candidates for designation as W particles.

He recalled the new era that had been opened by Maxwell's discovery of the connection between the forces of electricity and magnetism in the 19th century, a discovery that had radically changed life in the modern world. He expressed the hope that the discovery linking the W force with electromagnetism would lead to a similar practical effect, although it was still too early to specify what that effect would be.

This race reminded physicists at the meeting of a similar competition a few years ago when groups led by Burton Richter of Stanford and Samuel C.C. Ting of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology fought to be first to discover what came to be called the J-psi particle. Both groups discovered particles almost simultaneously. They shared the Nobel prize in 1976. Richter also was part of the current race for the W particle.

The CERN research, more specifically, endorses the "electroweak theory," in that two of the four — forces "weak" and the electromagnetic — are unified, said a spokesman for the centre, Roger Antoine.

The CERN accelerator is essentially a circular tunnel six kilometres around, under the French-Swiss border. Billions of protons, which along with neutrons make up the nucleus of the atom, are fired against a beam of anti-protons in it.

A computer analysis of the billions of resulting collisions produced the five "clean events," and "confirms the discovery of the W intermediate vector boson postulated by the unified theory of weak and electromagnetic interactions," the lab said.

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SHAMIR IMPLIES

(Continued from Page One)

and Israel, Shamir added. Shamir contended there is no reason to be overly concerned about the ups and downs in negotiations with Lebanon, or the situation where Jerusalem reports progress and Beirut denies it. These are complicated negotiations, he said, but there is no doubt that a satisfactory agreement will ultimately be reached.

with a prominent Lebanese personality was broken by the Lebanese negotiators under the pressure of their Arab neighbours.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir on Friday told the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel Aviv that Israel's insistence to man three or four warning stations in Lebanon is only enhanced by the fact that "an agreement reached

Ben-Meir said that "the record of Lebanon since it yielded to foreign pressure and admitted the PLO to an extra-territorial status was such that Israel cannot rely on the Lebanese, for the time being, to maintain law and order. Nobody more than the Israelis wish the Lebanese full sovereignty over their land."

The Lebanese he strongly advised, "should not rely on international forces to keep their house in order" because such forces are not built for that.

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IDF personnel dept. has new commander

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The IDF has announced that Aluf-Mishne Benny Dekel has been appointed chief of the personnel management and records division with the rank of Tat-Aluf. He replaces Tat-Aluf Dan Raz who is leaving the IDF.

Sharon visits Beirut, honours B. Jemayel

Jerusalem Post Staff

Defence Minister Ariel Sharon visited Beirut on Thursday afternoon and laid a wreath on the grave of Bashir Jemayel, the assassinated Phalange leader and president-elect.

According to an announcement by the Defence Ministry, Sharon met Jemayel three days before he was killed by a bomb in Beirut on September 14, 1982. The ministry statement said the two men had agreed that Lebanon and Israel were to begin talks "towards reaching a peace treaty" on September 15.

HU to be presented with Stravinsky score

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek

this afternoon will present to the National Library of the Hebrew University the manuscript of Igor Stravinsky's score for his Ballad "Abraham and Isaac," which he composed for the Israel Festival in 1964. This is the only biblical work by the composer.

Shultz and Bush visiting Asia and Europe

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — Secretary of State George Shultz left Washington yesterday for a two-week trip to Japan, China, South Korea and Hong Kong.

At his first stop, in Japan, he is expected to build on recent talks in Washington during a visit by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. On Wednesday Shultz goes on to Peking, where he will try to soothe China's relations with the U.S., ruffled by a row over Chinese textile exports while Sino-Soviet relations appear to be warming slightly.

It is written in Hebrew and Stravinsky said in his instructions for the performance that it must always be sung in Hebrew, and never in translation.

At the same time Vice-President George Bush leaves today for a trip to seven Western European countries during which he will meet Soviet arms negotiators and tell Europeans that President Ronald Reagan wants arms reductions.

HUSSEIN. — King Hussein of Jordan returned to Amman yesterday after a three-day official visit to Belgium.

With deep sorrow we announce the death of our beloved

YETTA MICHELS

in Johannesburg, South Africa, deeply missed and mourned by

her son Ian daughter-in-law Josette and granddaughter Veronique Michels.

Our beloved

Dr. BERNARD MARX

London — previously of Cologne has passed away. In deep sorrow Irene Marx Ruth Kirshbaum-Neuberger Dr. Ricard Marx Grandchildren, Great-grandchildren and all the family in Israel and abroad.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our member

HAIM BITAN

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, January 30, 1983, at 2.30 p.m. in Kfar Blum

The Family Kibbutz Kfar Blum

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved father, grandfather

FRITZ HALLO

The funeral will take place tomorrow, Monday, January 31, 1983, leaving at 2.30 p.m. from the Municipal Funeral Parlour, 5 Rehov Dafna, Tel Aviv, for Holon Cemetery. Transportation will be available for those attending. Please refrain from condolence visits.

Mourner: Son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Esther Hallo Daughter and son-in-law, Hilda and Benjamin Wallach Grandchildren, Jaron, Dani, Edna, Jörk, Rafi and Ruthi and the great-grandchildren

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THE ISRAEL MUSEUM, JERUSALEM

"Bezalel, 1906 — 1929"

Book courtesy of the Shover Foundation

400 pages: 500 b/w illustrations, 50 colour plates Hebrew edition, soft cover, IS 750 Hebrew edition, hard cover, IS 925 Mail and packing, IS 40

English edition, pre-publication price, including mailing, soft cover IS 925 hard cover IS 1,100 All prices good until the end of February.

WEEKLY STOCK MARKET REVIEW

Investors breathless after stunning week

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
Post Finance Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The traumatic events of the week under review left investors suspended on a roller-coaster. In five trading sessions, prices of shares registered on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange tumbled precipitously, and the rally on Wednesday and Thursday only slightly made up for the erosion in prices and the losses in the market values of shares — estimated to be more than \$1.5 billion.

The cause of the all-time high selling wave and a one-day record high trading turnover of \$53.3b., was a newspaper story a week ago Thursday, which announced that the Treasury intended to impose far-reaching curbs on mutual funds. Some of the following statistics tell only a part of the tale of the market's erosion.

The General Share Index fell, in the course of one week, by nearly 10

per cent. If the commercial banks are excluded, the share market in toto fell by almost 16 per cent. Special financial institutions saw their shares fall by more than 21 per cent. The insurance sector suffered a loss of more than 26 per cent, similar to the loss suffered by service companies. Industrials fell by nearly 18 per cent.

Little more than a month ago, the United Mizrahi Bank offered \$150m. for the shares of the First International Bank of Israel holding company, which then were priced at \$205. Mizrahi intended to raise \$100m. on the stock exchange to defray the cost of the intended FBI purchase. In the course of one session last week, FBI shares tumbled by no less than \$5.8 per cent.

Observers suggested that Bank Mizrahi was fortunate that the deal had never gone through. In the course of the week, mutual funds suffered severe losses. Ronit, one of the two mutual funds

managed by the Rieger-Fishman Group, was down by 60 per cent. Losses in other mutual funds were considerably smaller.

On Thursday, in a stunning rally, 261 shares zoomed ahead by margins of 15 per cent, and investors' confidence was slightly restored.

On Friday, confusion once again reigned supreme as a headline story in a morning newspaper suggested that the Treasury would take steps to lower the prices of commercial bank shares. These had not only weathered the storm, but had actually moved ahead during the week under review. The Treasury immediately announced that it had no intention of interfering in the price of the shares of either commercial banks or of other shares.

However, most investors were left in a state of total bewilderment and a feeling of uncertainty prevailed.



Hassler Whitney



Mark Krein

American, Russian to get Wolf Prize

The \$100,000 1982 Wolf Foundation Prize in Mathematics will be shared by Prof. Hassler Whitney of the Institute for Advanced Study of Princeton, and Prof. Mark Grigor'evich Krein of the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the Ukrainian S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, Odessa.

Whitney will be honoured for his work in algebraic and differential topology and differential geometry, and Krein, for his "fundamental contributions to functional analysis and its applications."

Krein is the third Russian scientist to be honoured by the Israel-based Wolf Foundation. The first two Soviet scientists were given permission by the authorities to accept the prize, but neither was allowed personally to receive the award at ceremonies in Jerusalem. The foundation, through the Foreign Ministry, is making efforts to enable them to receive the awards at a foreign embassy representing Israel in Moscow.

JERUSALEM POST POLL

Public split on early election, but favours quitting Lebanon

By MARK SEGAL
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — The country is divided almost down the middle on the issue of replacing the government during the 10th Knesset, and the same applies to the proposal to call early elections.

The political division is clearcut — with the pro-Likud camp overwhelmingly against new elections and Labour supporters holding the contrary position. A quarter of the public, and of Likud voters, supports a national unity coalition.

The above emerged from The Jerusalem Post poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrachi Research Institute among 1,929 adults at the end of December and during the first week of January.

Q. "Are you for or against replacing the government during the 10th Knesset?"

	All Respondents	Pro-Likud	Pro-Labour
Yes, by a national unity government	34.3	23.5	12.9
Yes, by a Labour government	18.0	0.1	65.3
Yes, by another government	6.7	0.8	3.2
No	46.8	75.0	16.0
Undecided	4.2	0.6	2.6

Institute director Dr. Sara Shemer noted that nearly twice as many Likud supporters favour a broad coalition than do Labour voters.

Q. "Are you for or against early elections?"

	Jan. 83	Oct. 82
For	43.9	46.9
Against	50.3	48.6
Undecided	5.8	4.5

29.5 per cent of Likud voters now favour early elections (34 per cent in October), compared to 66.3 per cent of Labour voters (73 per cent in October).

The poll also indicated a marked shift in readiness to disengage from Lebanon, with a sharp increase in the number of those amenable either to an unconditional pull-out or withdrawal on minimum terms.

Q. "In view of what you know today are you for or against withdrawing IDF forces from Lebanon?"

	Jan. 83	Oct. 82	Sept. 82
For, unconditionally	21.5	13.0	17.7
For, on condition of suitable security agreements	37.0	34.9	29.2
For, on above condition plus Syrian withdrawal	32.4	44.7	42.5
For, other conditions	1.9	2.2	1.6
Against	5.0	3.5	4.7
Undecided	2.2	1.7	4.3

Shemer noted the steep drop since January among that segment of the public favouring the maximum conditions for an Israeli pull-out. She also noted the increase in the number of those ready for an unconditional pull-out as well as for easier terms.

Beersheba bus sanctions

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — The municipal bus system's 180 drivers have begun working to rule to show their dissatisfaction with management, which has called a meeting tonight to discuss the matter. The drivers

claim they do not have to take on passengers when there are 45 seated people on board, and thus, they drive past many stops on their route and let off passengers between stops. The management had condemned this practice.

Israeli Arab leaders hope to foil state land-grabs

By YOEL DAR
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH. — The National Committee of Chairmen of Arab Local Councils and members of the public Committee for Protection of Arab Land are launching a joint political struggle aimed at "foiling government plans to take over tens of thousands of dunams of land belonging to Arab residents in the Galilee, the Little Triangle and the Negev."

Representatives of these two organizations are to meet in Shifaram township in western Galilee today to discuss how to achieve their purpose without street demonstrations. A delegation from both groups will meet with leaders of several political parties in the Knesset on Tuesday.

On February 19 a national congress of Israeli Arabs is to be held in Shifaram to discuss measures to foil government plans. Arab spokesmen have claimed that the government recently used "sophisticated means" to take over tens of thousands of dunams of land belonging to Arab residents. In the Galilee, they said, the Interior Ministry, for example, decided to include many thousands of dunams of land belonging to Arab villagers within the jurisdiction of Misgav, a new Jewish regional council, without the knowledge of their owners. In the Little Triangle, the Defence Ministry, they said, fenced off over 20,000 dunams of land and denied access to Arab farmers, while in the Negev, hundreds of Beduin families were evacuated from their land to allow construction of IDF bases.

Government officials dealing with Arab affairs claimed the new move was initiated by Rakah and other radical groups for political benefit. They said the government recently has not expropriated even a single dunam of Arab land. The Interior Ministry, they said, did not change the legal status of the land which was included in Misgav and its owners can cultivate the land freely. In the Little Triangle, the army simply returned to a former firing zone used by the IDF before 1967.

WALL STREET WEEK

Market analysts predict upswing for U.S. economy

NEW YORK (AP). — It took its time getting here, but many Wall Street analysts believe a recovery from the U.S. recession is at hand.

U.S. unemployment is expected to remain stubbornly high, however, and spending for new plants and equipment severely depressed for some time to come. But the trend of economy activity, they say, is at last moving in a positive direction.

The government's index of leading economic indicators released on Friday showed a 1.5 per cent jump in December, the eighth increase in the past nine months, and the largest in more than two years. Martin Feldstein, President Ronald Reagan's economic adviser, said the report indicated that a recovery was "increasingly likely."

Leif Olsen, chairman of the economic policy committee at New York's Citibank, said that evidence of an improvement is likely to be clear by the end of the current quarter. The recovery, he said, is "already under way."

Mounting evidence of better times ahead evidently impressed stock-market investors. After taking a drop of almost 23 points on Monday, the Dow Jones Average of 30 industrials recovered to post an 11.77-point gain, to 1,064.75, for the week. The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 17 to 83.35. At the American Stock Exchange, the market value index was off 5.76 at 359.89. Big Board volume averaged 84.37 million shares a day against 81.68 million the week before.

Call for everyone to let market regulate itself

Jerusalem Post Reporter

There should be more closed trust funds, with limited numbers of shares, in place of the open-ended funds responsible for the dramatic upsurge and downturn in the stock market, Michael Albin, a member of the Tel Aviv Stock Market Board, suggested on Kol Yisrael's weekly newsreel yesterday.

"When the public saw their trust fund making money, they wanted to buy more share certificates," he said. "The funds had unlimited numbers of shares and their directors didn't know what to do with all the money. They invested heavily in those stocks in which they believed and then the public, seeing what stocks the funds invested in, began investing in the same stocks, thus redoubling the effect. After the events of late December and early January, the finance minister had no choice but to intervene."

Albin believes the stock market will find a new balance and will not be as dramatic as the past. His request is that everyone, including the news media, keep hands off and allow the market to regulate itself now that the lessons have been learned.

Research centre to study culture of Palestinians

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TAIBA. — The Committee for the Advancement of Education in the Arab Sector is setting up a centre for research on Palestinian culture and folklore in the Little Triangle. About a year ago the Council for Higher Education turned down an application by this body to set up an Arab university in Nazareth.

The committee is also looking into the possibility of setting up a nursing school in Nazareth.

The owners of the new folklore centre are Jam'iya el-Jaili, meaning "the Galilee University." This is an Ottoman society which was set up by the Committee for the Advancement of Education in the Arab sector.

The academic committee of Jam'iya el-Jaili has decided to set up a number of small centres in various Arab towns instead of the originally planned university, the first centre being the folklore centre in Taiba.

The Jam'iya has rented a 200-square-metre house in Taiba for this purpose.

A source in the Council for Higher Education said that the council had not forbidden the setting up of a "research centre."

'Testimonium' changes

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The second programme of "Testimonium 1983," with works by Xenakis, Marco and Schidlowsky, will take place tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum, and will be repeated at the Jerusalem Theatre on Thursday, February 3.

For technical reasons, the performance of Kopyman's opera *Sueskind von Trimborg and Fleuk* by Hespos cannot be performed in Tel Aviv. However, this programme will be given at the Jerusalem Theatre on February 1 and 2. For the performance on Wednesday, the "Testimonium" will provide free buses to bring Tel Avivians to the Jerusalem Theatre and back. Buses will wait in front of the Tel Aviv Museum at 7 p.m., and at the theatre after the programme.

Sources in the city's engineering department yesterday confirmed that the building did not have a permit and according to the law, it could not be connected to electric lines without one.

Defence tries to discredit witnesses to Argov shooting

By HYAM CORNEY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Eye-witnesses to the attempted assassination of Israel Ambassador Shlomo Argov last June came under close cross-examination by the defence counsel on Friday at the Old Bailey, the third day of the trial of the three Arabs accused of the crime.

Rock Tansey, defence counsel for Hussein Said, the one alleged to have fired the bullet through Argov's head, told a police constable who arrived at the scene that he regarded his account of the incident as "totally untrue". The constable replied: "I assure you I am telling the truth."

Detective constable Colin Simpson, Argov's protection officer, was also closely questioned as Tansey attempted to discredit his version of the events. He accused Simpson, who chased after the gunman and shot him in the neck, of shooting the wrong man. But Simpson stuck to his account.

Another witness was Michael Silver, who had been the embassy chauffeur for a year. He confirmed

Simpson's version, but Tansey claimed that Silver and Simpson had conferred with each other and that Silver was trying to protect Simpson. Silver denied this.

The chauffeurs of three other guests at the Dorchester Hotel dinner were called. All gave more or less the same accounts of what happened.

One claimed to have seen the gunman standing outside the hotel some 40 minutes before the guests came out. He said that the man later chased by Simpson was the man he had seen earlier outside the hotel. He was "Arab-looking" and "stood out like a sore thumb among the chauffeurs," he testified.

Another witness was Sir John King, chairman of British Airways and a guest at the dinner. He left at the same time as Argov and heard the shots.

Tansey is stressing slight discrepancies in the evidence of the witnesses called so far. These relate to the exact nature of the gunman's clothing, whether or not he had a moustache, and whether he had a gun in his hand when he was shot by Simpson.

Row over delay in rehousing Jaffa's Arab slum dwellers

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — An apartment building built for needy Arab families in Jaffa has been standing empty for nearly a year because the Halamish housing company built it without a permit. The delay has angered some of Jaffa's Arab residents many of whom suffer from a severe housing shortage.

The Halamish company, operated jointly by the government and municipality, completed the 42-apartment building long ago, but discovered that it could not connect it to water and electricity without a legal building permit.

Halamish director-general Aharon Farber yesterday said these problems would soon be overcome, and the building would be populated. But other Halamish sources said that the company is making efforts to requisition the land which the building is on, with the help of the Israel Lands Administration, due to problems with one of the land's Arab owners.

Jaffa's Wakf (Islamic charitable trust) chairman Abed Kabub denied

Halamish's version. Kabub said yesterday that he had been notified by Halamish over a month ago that the building was completed, and that the Arab families eligible to get apartments in it had refused to move in. Kabub told The Jerusalem Post that all the families registered with Halamish for that building are waiting to get in, and several others wish they could.

Kabub said that the building was built on abandoned Arab land, and that he did not believe there was any ownership problem. He said Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat is probably waiting for election time before putting poor Arab families into the building.

Members of the joint Jewish-Arab Committee for Jaffa's Arabs yesterday noted that if the delay is because Halamish does not own the land, then the construction of the building was illegal.

Sources in the city's engineering department yesterday confirmed that the building did not have a permit and according to the law, it could not be connected to electric lines without one.

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Ghanaians in mass exodus from Nigeria

LOME, Togo. — Tens of thousands of Ghanaians, crammed into trucks and buses with their belongings, returned home yesterday after being expelled from Nigeria.

The refugees, shouting slogans and singing, crossed the border post between Togo and Ghana at Aflao, which reopened yesterday four months after it was sealed by the Accra government.

An estimated one million Ghanaians are among two million illegal aliens expelled by Nigeria at short notice. Thousands have already returned home by sea and air and West African ports were still packed with hopeful passengers yesterday.

The ruling Provisional National Defence Council in Ghana bowed to pressure from Togo and other West African states to reopen its land border at Aflao to ease the plight of the deportees. The frontier post has been opened for 12 hours a day to allow convoys of trucks to bring the expelled workers to reception camps in Ghana.

Ghana yesterday announced it was reopening a part of its border to

admit hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing overland through Dahomey and Togo.

While nationals from eight other West African countries were being allowed home, the Ghanaian frontiers had been closed since September 21, when military ruler Flight Lt. Jerry Rawlings closed them in what he said was a move to stop smuggling.

Accra radio, monitored in London, said the Ghanaian border with Togo now would remain open at Aflao from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. But there was no indication in the broadcast how many refugees from Nigeria would be allowed through.

In Chad, to Nigeria's north, officials said 5,000 illegal immigrants had already reached N'djamena, the capital. Thousands more are expected, and the national news agency gave the number of Chadians working in Nigeria as 700,000.

Some refugees said their Nigerian employers had refused to pay their final salaries, the agency said. Local and international aid organizations are helping to feed the deportees stranded in the region and medical

teams are treating cases of chicken-pox and other illnesses.

Both Ghana and Chad are economically broke and are expected to appeal for foreign aid to help them cope with the sudden influx.

The massive evacuation, described by a BBC reporter on the Benin-Nigeria border as a "human tragedy," began after Nigeria ordered out illegal aliens on January 17. Most were given only two weeks to leave.

Ghanaian leader Flight Lt. Jerry Rawlings on Friday appealed to Ghanaians to accept the one million fellow countrymen expelled from Nigeria. Radio Accra reported. The state-controlled radio quoted Rawlings as urging tribal chiefs to allocate land to the returning Ghanaians.

In Brussels the European Community has launched a \$500,000 aid programme to help the deportees. The community's executive commission said the deportation order was already causing serious humanitarian problems. (Reuter, AP)



French comedian Louis de Funes, who died on Thursday, is seen here playing a rabbi in the film 'The Adventures of Rabbi Jacob.'

(UPI/telephoto)

Comic actor Louis de Funes dies at 68

PARIS (AP). — Louis de Funes, France's most popular comic actor, died in a Nantes hospital following a heart attack, hospital sources said. He was 68.

De Funes was rushed to the Nantes hospital centre from his home in nearby Cellier on Thursday afternoon and he died in the

intensive-care section.

Typical De Funes characters brought laughter to millions of fans in France and abroad, but the character belied the real man. He was a charming, calm person who was often seen fishing alone on the river that flowed past his 18th century-style chateau.

Rome guerrillas murder prison guard

ROME (Reuter). — Leftist urban guerrillas allied to Italy's Red Brigades kidnapped and shot dead a prison warden here on Friday night, police said.

The body of Germana Stefanini, 57, was found in the back of a stolen car on the outskirts of Rome. She had been killed by a bullet through the head.

Police were directed to the body by a series of telephone calls to Rome newspapers and Rebibbia prison, claiming responsibility for the killing in the name of the Armed Proletarian Power Guerrilla group.

The same group, closely allied to the Red Brigades, claimed responsibility for the attempted murder last year of a woman doctor who also worked at Rebibbia prison.

Women commit suicide after bearing girls

PEKING (Reuter). — Two Chinese women committed suicide by taking poison after they were repeatedly beaten by their husbands for giving birth to girls instead of boys, official newspapers reported on Thursday.

The cases were the latest of dozens of similar cases in recent months provoked by a combination of tough birth control regulations and the traditional Confucian preference for sons to carry on the

family line.

Peking has imposed a system of fines and other penalties which make it extremely difficult for any couple to have more than one child and virtually illegal to have more than two.

There have been officially reported cases of baby girls being killed or abandoned to die after birth so couples could try again for a boy.

Soviet: Cosmos fuel case to burn completely

UNITED NATIONS (Reuter). — The Soviet Union has formally informed the UN that the nuclear fuel core of its Cosmos 1402 spy satellite will burn up completely on entering the earth's atmosphere between February 3 and 8.

In a note made public Friday, Moscow also officially notified Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that the main part of the satellite entered the atmosphere over the central area of the Indian Ocean at 1:10 a.m. Moscow time last Monday (00:10 Monday Israel time) and "ended its existence."

The four-ton Cosmos 1402, launched last August 30 to track shipping, began to drop out of orbit earlier this month.

China reportedly aids Pakistan to design atom bomb

WASHINGTON (AP). — China has given Pakistan information about the design of nuclear bombs that could give a significant boost to Pakistan's efforts to develop nuclear weapons, according to a published report quoting U.S. intelligence sources.

China confirmed that a particular weapon would work, which might mean that Pakistan could build a weapon without a preliminary nuclear test that would cut off U.S. military aid. The Washington Post reported on Friday.

Pakistan has denied that it is trying to develop a nuclear weapons capability, saying its nuclear programme is aimed at power production. China, a longtime ally of Pakistan, has exploded several nuclear weapons.

In Peking, the Foreign Ministry denied the report as untrue.

OIL WELL. — The Soviet Union's deepest offshore oil well — at a depth of 6,750 metres — has been completed in the Caspian Sea.

U.S. spurns Soviet plan for nuclear-free zone in Europe

WASHINGTON (AP). — The U.S. on Friday rejected a proposal by the Soviet Union to create a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe, saying the idea is "not realistic" and "would not contribute to security and stability in Europe."

"Indeed, we are concerned that such proposal can only divert attention from the serious efforts we are making in Geneva and Vienna to achieve dramatic reductions in nuclear and conventional forces in Europe," said John Hughes, chief spokesman for the State Department.

On Thursday, the Soviet government proposed setting up a zone at least 500 kilometres wide astride the borders of Eastern and Western Europe that would be swept clear of tactical nuclear weapons. The proposed zone would include large parts of West and East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Hughes said that the U.S. believes that in some cases, such as

in Latin America, nuclear-free zones may enhance regional security of a region.

But he said this is the case only "if they realistically take account of the existing security situation and defensive arrangements of the region involved."

West German officials said on Friday that they see "considerable problems" with the Soviet proposal saying it could increase the chances on conventional aggression and endanger the security of other Western Alliance countries.

In London, the Foreign Office declined comment on the Soviet proposal, which was similar to a Swedish suggestion. A spokesman said Britain would respond to the Swedish plan, but gave no indication in what sense or when.

Two British opposition spokesmen, Denis Healey of the Labour Party and David Owen of the Social Democrat party, said they favoured such a nuclear-free zone.

Turkey executes Armenian gunman, 4 Turk leftists

ANKARA (Reuter). — An Armenian gunman, who stormed Ankara airport last August killing nine persons and wounding more than 70, was hanged early yesterday, martial law officials said.

Levon Ekmekjian, 25, was sentenced to death last September after confessing to membership of the Beirut-based Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia.

During the incident, Ekmekjian and one other gunman, who died in the attack, sprayed travellers with machinegun fire, lobbed grenades into the airport departure lounge and held 15 hostages at gunpoint in a restaurant for two hours.

In the Marmara Sea port of Gokcek, officials said four leftist militants, all believed Turks, convicted of murder and armed robbery were also executed yesterday morning.

All five death sentences were ratified by the ruling Military National Security Council Friday night, bringing to 31 the number of people executed in Turkey since capital punishment was revived after the September, 1980 military coup.

Quebec strike spreads

MONTREAL (AP). — About 6,000 Quebec workers in community health clinics and day-care centres joined 109,000 striking teachers and other public employees Friday, escalating a three-day-old walkout the government calls illegal.

More than half the province's 400 community clinics were affected by the spreading strike, but all the clinics were expected to maintain emergency services.

Reports from Quebec City indicated the government is considering several options to crush the strike, including multiplying existing fines by as much as five times to a maximum of \$250,000 for individual unions.

STATUE. — Archeologists making trial excavations in the Plaka district of Athens in the shadow of the acropolis, have unearthed a 2,100-year-old life-size marble statue of a man in flowing robe, lacking both head and feet.

Third round of China-India talks begins in Peking

PEKING (AP). — China and India began their third round of talks yesterday in an effort to resolve the dispute that led to a border war in 1962 and still obstructs their relations.

The talks, expected to last five days, also will cover other bilateral issues and ways to improve trade, cultural, scientific and technological exchanges.

No progress was made during the first two rounds of talks as each side restated its position without making concessions.

The Indian delegation arrived here on Friday, headed by Vice-Minister of External Affairs K.S. Bajpai, a former ambassador to China. The Chinese delegation is headed by Fu Hao, adviser to the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The central issue involves three disputed sectors along the 4,000 kilometre border.

Since the 1962 border war, China has occupied 36,400 square kilometres of territory claimed by India. China also claims but does not occupy another 234,000 square kilometres of northeast India.

Seven passengers die as cable cars plunge

SINGAPORE (Reuter). — Two cable cars crashed into the sea yesterday killing at least seven people and seriously injuring a child, port authorities said.

The two cars, operating between the resort island of Sentosa and mainland Singapore, were flung into the sea after a passing oil rig hit the steel cables, they said.

The bodies of a Japanese tourist and two local people were retrieved by naval frogmen.

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Monday February 14 ISSUES IN SOLVING THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM
Debate: Dr. Benny Tunkin, Member of Secretariat, Sheli vs. Representative (to be announced) of Mithrasheet Eretz Yisrael — For a Greater Land of Israel

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I WAS READY for a few surprises last week when I went out to learn about nature on my doorstep, but I hardly expected to find a wine press in Jerusalem's Rehov Metudela.

The rather impressive archaeological remains are hidden behind a bush, almost invisible to pedestrians on the adjacent pavement. I would probably have never learned about it had I not taken a morning off to see a bit of hidden Jerusalem with Tsippi Ron, head of the local branch of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

The tour was in honour of Nature Protection Week, sponsored by the SPNI in cooperation with other official and unofficial nature bodies. The theme is Nature on Your Doorstep. Nature Protection Week began yesterday, appropriately enough, on Tu B'Shvat. Because the holiday fell on Shabbat, the various tree planting ceremonies have been scheduled for other days of the week.

Most Jerusalemites tend to be pretty blasé about sites on their doorsteps. Like many other residents, I have been up and down the streets of the Old City, around the slopes of the Mount of Olives, and through the burial caves of Sanhedria. But I did not know that a water tunnel runs through the new neighbourhood of East Talpuz, not ten minutes from my house.

When we drove down the main road into the quarter and made a sharp right turn onto a dirt road just before the supermarket, we found a group of workmen, Jewish and Arab, who were also unaware of the tunnel, although their construction site was only a few metres away.

THE TUNNEL, Ron explained, was part of an aqueduct which brought water from the Hebron region to Jerusalem in the days of

the Second Temple. It was known as the lower aqueduct, to differentiate it from another water system known as the upper aqueduct, and it was needed to supply water to the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims who inundated the city on festivals.

"There was supposed to be a park all along the aqueduct," Ron said, "but in some places we simply didn't know where it went and in other places the builders encroached on the area." The main road into the new neighbourhood was moved several metres back in order to leave the tunnel intact, but Ron still fears that the continued stress of traffic may eventually cause it to collapse.

"They've assured us that it's absolutely safe," she said, "but they (the municipality) said the same thing about the tunnel they're building through the dam at the Sultan's Pool." The road going over the dam at that site had to be closed for a few days recently because the tunnel had started to collapse.

There were small piles of marble and builder's refuse all around. Perhaps it was the presence of these modern stones that kept me from noticing the many small bits of square white stones all around. These, Ron explained, were pieces of ancient mosaic.

We entered the tunnel itself through a small square opening in the face of the rock. From there it opened up into a high narrow passage with the marks of ancient rock cutters still clear on the walls. High up above were a series of shafts from the top, providing air and light for the water running below.

FOR MOST of the route, the water actually ran above ground, but here, at the last large hill before the Temple Mount, they cut through the rock. One can also see traces of the ancient pipeline in the garden near



Ancient dovetail cut into the rock in Gilo, probably from the Second Temple period.

HIDDEN HISTORY

TEXT: Haim Shapiro PHOTOGRAPHS: Karen Ben Zion

the adjoining Elram project. Only a few metres from the last building, the pipeline sticks out into the greenery, looking for all the world like part of a house knocked down only a few years ago.

To make sure that our tour was complete, we were also told about the surrounding plants. In one spot we saw the low bushy leaves of henbane, an intoxicant which contains large doses of atropine and is, of course, poisonous. Nearby were the pointed leaves of sea squill, once

used by local farmers, both Jews and Arabs, to mark the borders of their fields because it sends up its flowers in the early fall when the work of sowing begins.

We then went to another new neighbourhood, Gilo. There, just below the road adjoining the last row of houses, we climbed down to find the city's only columbarium, an ancient dovecote cut into the rock. This too was evidently from the Second Temple period. The doves were raised to be offered up as

sacrifices in the sanctuary. Their little perches were cut into the rock in neat rows.

AT ONE POINT, no doubt, the whole columbarium had been covered over by natural rock overhang, but this had collapsed over the years and only a small section of roof remains. Two types of *salvia*, the spice used to season bread grew nearby. Wild thyme, oregano, and oregano grew abundantly in the rocks.

At this point I asked whether such sites existed only in the newer quarters of the city. What about such old neighbourhoods as Rehavia?

"Do you know about the wine press on Rehov Metudela?" Ron asked; soon we were on our way to that sedate street. If you know what you're looking for, the wine press can be seen from the sidewalk, beside the gate leading into 38 Rehov Metudela. The best way of approaching it is not to go in through the gate but to climb up onto the rock, pushing your way past a puny almond tree growing in one of the settling pans of the ancient press.

FROM ABOVE, one can clearly see one of the two large flat areas where the grapes were stamped out, and the two settling pans, where the residue could settle before the juice flowed into the large square vat prepared to receive it. From there it was taken away in clay jars to be stored. The existence of the wine press also explains why the entire building stands at an angle from the street.

Near the wine press grew *dudaim* — mandrakes — the ancient symbol of virility mentioned in Genesis.

Ron told us that in ancient times the plant was considered to bring good luck, although it was bad luck to pick it. To solve this problem, she said, people in ancient times would tie the plant to a dog and then offer the animal a piece of meat from afar, letting the curse fall upon the unlucky beast.

For those unfortunate who have no wine press on their doorstep, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel is organizing a series of hikes, walks, excursions and programmes this week. Details are available at local branches of the SPNI.



Above, wine press in Rehov Metudela. Below, water tunnel in East Talpuz.



Hard and soft ethics

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN / Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

This was unfortunate, because at this stage of the game the question is not whether the subcommittee's draft is better than nothing — of course it is — but whether it goes far enough. Two basic points are at issue:

First, should MKs be forbidden to represent clients/customers before government agencies? Here, too, the Kulas draft is silent.

Second, should the periodic declaration of assets and business interests that the Kulas draft would require of MKs (upon taking office and annually thereafter) be made public? The Kulas draft would have the declaration submitted in a sealed envelope and be opened only under certain conditions.

The first restriction is included in the rules the Israel Bar Association adopted on December 1, but which will not take effect unless Justice Minister Moshe Nissim approves them. In fact the association's rules would even bar an MK from representing a client before any "controlled body" — meaning any organization or institution that

benefits from the state budget.

Public financial declarations are advocated by Eliahu Speiser (Alignment), a member of the House Committee and of the ethics subcommittee. He says that here we should borrow a leaf from the U.S., where candidates for Congress must publicize such declarations and that the contents sometimes become an issue in the election campaign.

Kulas, too, was practically silent on these controversial issues. He rigged the game by saying: "As between the one extreme of forbidding MKs to engage in any other gainful employment and the other extreme of adopting no rules at all, the ethics subcommittee has taken the golden mean."

EVEN BEFORE the bar association adopted its rules, it is doubtful whether the "do nothing" option still existed. After the association acted, there is no doubt about it: that option is dead.

Kulas did not even try to justify the subcommittee's failure to adopt the three controversial rules listed above. Unless it is a justification to say — not specifically with reference to the three mooted rules but about tough proposals in general — "Since the extreme is unattainable, it doesn't matter whether it is desirable."

When I heard that, I wondered whether the House Committee had

not itself created a conflict of interest when it appointed Kulas to head the ethics subcommittee. Even though he has not yet been admitted to the bar, his closeness to the legal fraternity may have made him vulnerable to the pressure he admits was exerted on him by Olmert, Milo and Shahal.

Kulas revealed that he had urged the minister of justice not to approve the rules of the bar association. The adoption of rules of ethics for MKs was the prerogative of the Knesset, he said. "The Knesset, which passes laws for the entire nation, should be able to pass laws concerning itself."

That certainly doesn't follow, and one person who said so at the symposium was Dr. Yehoshua Rotenstreich, former president of the bar association, who opened the discussion.

Rotenstreich recalled that the Unna Committee, appointed in 1973 by Justice Minister Ya'acov Shimshon Shapiro, had come to the conclusion that the Knesset itself should lay down rules of conduct for lawyer MKs. But the Knesset had done nothing since.

Many lawyers have complained to the bar association of unfair competition on the part of MK lawyers, who automatically occupy a preferred position, because of their "connections," actual or supposed,

Rotenstreich said.

"If the Knesset does not act, an outside body should lay down rules. The present situation cannot continue."

Dr. Warhaftig advocated an outright ban on any additional gainful employment, arguing that no half-way measures could prevent a conflict of interest. More: An MK who has some business or professional employment outside the Knesset cannot be a full-fledged MK; he cannot give the Knesset his all. But at the very least, there must be a ban on representing clients before government officials, he said.

Granting that the Knesset needs lawyers, Warhaftig pooh-poohed the notion that such tough rules would empty the House of members of that profession. There would always be plenty of competent lawyers glad to give up their practice for four years in order to serve in the Knesset.

Another maximalist was Dr. Bader, who praised Speaker Menahem Savidor for having proposed "tough obligations" for MKs, i.e., that the obligation be imposed on them by law to be in the Knesset building on the three weekly sining days and to be regular in plenum and committee attendance. (Savidor said later that he would "fight to the end" to achieve that goal.)

THE HEART of the controversy, both at the symposium and the House Committee, seems to have shifted from the content of the code to the right of an outside body, such as the bar association, to lay down rules for its members who happen to be MKs.

Nissim on December 28 promised representatives of the bar association that he would inform the House Committee that if it did not come up with rules of its own, he would be "forced to consider" approving the rules of the bar association.

Basically, however, Nissim says that the Knesset is sovereign in this matter. Prof. Yitzhak Klinghoffer, at the symposium, went even further. He argued not only that the bar association has no right to impose restrictions on MKs, but also that Nissim's approval of such rules would be in violation of Article 19 of the Basic Law: The Knesset, which states that "the Knesset shall lay down its work arrangements."

On the other hand, Virshupski, a non-practising lawyer and one of the most diligent MKs, doubts that the courts would give article 19 such a broad construction, particularly if the Knesset itself prescribes no rules. He says that the rules would apply to the MK in his capacity as a lawyer and not in his capacity as an MK, he says.

But Virshupski would like the rules to be prescribed by the Knesset for a much more down-to-earth reason: they would then apply to MKs of all professions and not just to lawyers.

I have found that those who are zealous for the sovereignty of the Knesset are the same people who advocate soft rules, and that those who see no infringement of sovereignty here are those who favour hard rules. A coincidence?

Wasn't it Artemus Ward who said: "When a man says, 'It's not the money, it's the principle of the thing,' it's the money!"

FOR THE AVERAGE Israeli, the phrase "conflict of interest of an MK" means lawyers, and it conjures up a picture of dozens of such creatures who put their lucrative law practice before their Knesset duties.

But it isn't so, Chaim Herzog (Alignment) said last Sunday at the symposium "Conduct Befitting an MK," sponsored by the Israel Association on Parliamentary Problems.

Ya'acov Gil (Alignment) was in the audience — in a windbreaker. So, in a business suit, was Ariel Weinstein (Likud-Liberals), the newest MK. That's it. Apart from Herzog and Eliezer Kulas (Likud-Liberals), who were on the speakers' panel, no other MK was present.

Members of previous Knessets, yes. Dr. Yohanan Bader, Dr. Ze'ev Warhaftig, Baruch Azaria, Moshe Baram, Reuven Arzi, and Simha Friedman. Also judges, university lecturers and legal advisers of government. About 60 all told, until the audience began to thin out.

Herzog said that there are only four lawyer MKs who are simultaneously practising law (he actually said five, but later corrected this). He himself is one — but entering the Knesset nevertheless involved a financial sacrifice — and the others are

After the outrage

By ALEXANDER ZVIELI

Australian National Front and the local National Socialist organizations. They presumably are the source of a hate letter entitled "You and the Jew," which this winter was distributed to various prominent Australians, and copies of the infamous *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* are readily available. But these are not the only sources of hate. This year the Australian Press Council upheld a complaint from Rabbi John Levi of Melbourne against the local Arab newspaper *An Nahar* for anti-Jewish incitement.

AFTER THE December bombings aimed at Jewish targets, the Australian Federal Government ordered special precautions at the Israeli Embassy in Canberra and activated its special Anti-Terrorist Coordination Unit. The police announced that they would take special steps to protect synagogues and other places identified with the Jewish population.

The Israeli Consul General in Sydney, Dr. Moshe Liba, who was in the consulate when the bomb in the stairwell leading to it went off, was told by the police that they received a telephone call in which the PLO claimed responsibility. Ali Kazak, the PLO's chief spokesman in Australia, promptly denied this, claiming that "these bombs came at a time when public opinion in Australia supported the Palestinian people. It is clearly designed to

damage their image." Shortly afterwards a hitherto unknown, the Organization for the Liberation of Lebanon from Foreigners claimed responsibility.

Bombs have been used in vendettas among Sydney's Yugoslav community. A bomb exploded at the local Hilton during a Commonwealth Conference. The Turkish consul was assassinated at Dover Heights by Armenians. Australian Jews, however, were never directly involved in terrorism before.

The chief impact of the terrorist action was thus psychological. It shattered the popular belief "that this can never happen here." The PLO spokesman was correct to observe that it had largely served the Jewish and Zionist cause. While the Australians were perplexed by the violation of what they describe as "their way of life," the Jews were given food for thought about the true realities of their existence.

The following Saturday, Sydney synagogues were crowded as never before. Even those Jews who rarely visit places of worship came to show their solidarity.

If terrorists aimed to frighten anyone on the eve of the Israeli-Lebanese talks or aimed to embarrass the Jewish community at Christmas, they were gravely disappointed. The Maccabi festival was held a few days later, just as planned.

During a lively radio discussion held after the outrage, an Arab woman of Egyptian origin complained bitterly. Apparently a Moslem who has lived in Sydney for many years, she said that her children were growing up in an atmosphere of hatred and racial discrimination. She expressed regret that in Australia freedoms were being exploited by Moslem extremists.

variety. Written in 1915, one of his last sonatas, it is somewhat descriptive of Pierrrot the jester, his changing moods (his being angry at the moon) from the pathetic opening prologue to the humour of his getting drunk in the serenade and finale. Debussy makes use in the cello part of all sort of tone production effects such as pizzicati, glissandi and flageolets.

The Brahms early work, except for the ending Allegro that was written later was given an intense, committed performance.

Done with style

MUSIC
Esther Reuter

vigour and attention to nuance. The musicians' teamwork achieved good balance and unity in interpretation, both in the flow and in the building of movements. It was the Debussy that provided particular interest and

HAIFA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY. Uri Wiesel, cello with Paganini Concerto, Op. 1 (Belt); Handel, Suite for Cello and Piano in E Minor, Op. 38; Debussy: Sonata for Cello and Piano (1915); Beethoven: Sonata for Cello and Piano in A Major, Op. 69.

THIS PROGRAMME was competently presented with taste and style. Uri Wiesel is a well-equipped performer, an instrumentalist of intellect with a pleasant tone. His lucid playing shows equilibrium and a sense of proportion.

Prima Salzman brought to her important part effortless, pianistic polish.

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senior police officer, who is considered innocent, told yesterday. "He is a man who has been waiting for a trial for a long time," said the police. "He is a man who has been waiting for a trial for a long time," said the police. "He is a man who has been waiting for a trial for a long time," said the police.

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Editor and
Managing DirectorTHE JERUSALEM
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Founded in 1952 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955. Editor 1955-1974 TED LURIE. Editor 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR. EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Romema, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81 (91000) Telephone 538181. Telex 26121. TEL AVIV 11 Rehov Carlebach, P.O. Box 20126 (61201) Telephone 294222. HAIFA 16 Rehov Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, P.O. Box 4810 (31047) Telephone 645444. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. Copyright of all material reserved, reproduction permitted only by arrangement.

Shvat 16, 5743 • Rabi-Thani 16, 1403

Mr. Begin's voice

FOR SOME TIME now the Prime Minister's public statements and appearances have become a rare phenomenon. At a time when Israel is engaged in intensive and crucial political negotiations which will determine the final outcome of the war in Lebanon, while open confrontation between Jerusalem and Washington is looming, Mr. Begin's conspicuous silence ought to be of particular concern.

Moreover, with a consummate politician like Mr. Begin, who is known to thrive on public rhetoric and polemics, continued absence from the public stage of politics might be interpreted the wrong way.

It was therefore a welcome decision by Mr. Begin to address last night's closing meeting of the Israel Bonds Prime Minister's and Canal Founders Conference in Jerusalem. His urging patience regarding the current negotiations with Lebanon, which he said were not futile, and his public invitation to King Hussein to join the Camp David peace process were certainly timely.

But as there is no vacuum in politics and public life, Mr. Begin must also be seen to hold the reins of government, lest other dominant figures in his cabinet fill that vacuum, creating time and again *faits accomplis* which will be difficult, if not impossible, to change.

This applies, of course, particularly to Mr. Begin's impetuous Defence Minister Ariel Sharon who does not miss an opportunity to go public with the most surprising statements, replete with forays into the domains of both the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister. Mr. Sharon's statement on Friday, in an interview with *Ma'ariv*, calling the Soviet Union to come and meet with Israel, because they have "something to say to each other, there is something to talk about," is the most recent case in point.

Despite the brevity of this statement, without any further reference or elaboration, and its being totally out of context with the rest of the interview, it immediately caused ripples in Washington. The American over-reaction to Mr. Sharon's utterances can only be explained by the fact that the Defence Minister has not missed an opportunity lately to charge Washington with outright sabotage of the negotiations with Lebanon. His attempt then to stretch out an inviting hand towards Moscow could thus be interpreted as a warning to Washington that Israel could do business directly with the Kremlin, particularly on the touchy question of Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Coming from the man who has repeatedly claimed that Israel ought to be the bulwark of the U.S. against Soviet expansionist designs both in the Middle East and in Africa, this is certainly a new and quite inexplicable twist.

There were times when the journalistic usage of "political observers" and "authoritative sources" in Jerusalem would connote a high-level source, in the Prime Minister's office. But even in this sphere Mr. Sharon has of late usurped higher authority, particularly when it comes to attacking U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib's personal role in the negotiations with Lebanon. Here Mr. Sharon conveniently chooses to ignore the immeasurable damage caused by his own premature public disclosure of the initial "working paper" which he had negotiated with close advisers of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel.

Even the rare attempts by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to put a damper on Mr. Sharon's collision course rhetoric have no effect on the increasingly worsening relations between Washington and Jerusalem.

It is therefore high time that Jerusalem should again speak with one authoritative voice which will reflect the views of the Prime Minister.

THIS PAST week the Energy Ministry gave the final nod of approval to the Mediterranean-Dead Sea Project (MDP), which will move from planning to implementation within the next few years. Now that the \$1.4 billion hydroelectric power project is gaining momentum, the time is ripe to point out some disturbing tendencies that have emerged in selling the "Mediterranean-Dead Sea" canal, as it is popularly known, through Israel Bonds.

Two years ago the Bonds organization took upon itself the task of providing \$100 million in "seed money" for the project and has already reached most of this goal. A gathering of Canal Founders and members of the Prime Minister's Conference was held last week in Jerusalem, with the delegates dedicating an exploratory tunnel at the site of the outlet of the hydroelectric plant at the Dead Sea.

Fund-raising for the project has become an important part of the Bonds' activities, and the image of the MDP projected through the Bonds has reached both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences.

Looking into the conference kit issued last week to the delegates, what did we find? As far as the MDP is concerned, there was a booklet prepared by the Mediterranean-Dead Sea Company, which is a responsible and reasonably thorough presentation of the potential and the problems of the MDP, even though it does omit any mention of the issue of the project's economic viability.

And then there was a background paper, printed in the official format of the other Bonds papers, by Shlomo Drori. This paper, which appeared to the unsuspecting delegates to have the same official status as the booklet, presented what has to qualify as the most preposterous case for the canal that I have yet to encounter.

Drori serves as the spokesman of the Dead Sea Works and the head of the Tamar Regional Council, but during the last two years of Bonds involvement in the MDP has been elevated to the status of "canal evangelist" by the organization. He speaks to Bonds groups visiting Israel and has also been sent to the U.S. to convert souls to the cause. What I know of his views comes only from reading the background paper, for I have never met him or heard him speak.

In his eight-page paper he makes three main points about the potential of the MDP that I dare say would be laughed out of court by those who have devoted the last several years studying the economic and engineering feasibility of the project.

THE CANAL, he writes, has the potential to solve the Palestinian problem, bring economic independence to Israel, and to eliminate Israel's dependence on external sources of energy.

The first two claims are based on the assumption that the "cheap"

Selling the 'canal'

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

electricity from the project could be used to pump irrigation water for the Jordanian side of the Arava and to supply energy for extracting valuable minerals from the Dead Sea. By diverting the flood waters that now flow into the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea to the Arava, and by exploiting as yet undiscovered underground water in the Jordanian Arava, land could be made available for settling most of the Palestinian refugees.

First of all, the electricity to be produced won't be so cheap, or at least not as cheap as previously thought. And second, the electricity produced by the project has already been designated to feed into the national grid at peak-consumption hours to save expensive fuels now used to meet peak demand. The economic justification of the project is based on this usage and not on diverting the electricity for purposes around the Dead Sea. As spokesmen for the Dead Sea Works it is perhaps Drori's job, and his right, to glorify the potential of the region, but this kind of baseless canal hype has no place in an official presentation of the project.

Drori's claim that the project can lead to energy independence for Israel is not based on its hydroelectric output, but on a possible satellite project involving vast solar ponds in the Dead Sea and the Negev. Basing himself on the successful operation of a pilot project at Ein Boker, Drori reaches the following conclusion: "It is already clear today that within 10 years solar ponds will be economically viable and provide even cheaper electricity than thermal power stations."

The potential for extending today's pilot project on a vast scale and under different conditions simply hasn't been demonstrated. Everyone is entitled to his dreams, but to make a dream into a positive assertion of technical and economic viability is to put forth an argument that won't hold water.

Only an accident of scheduling prevented last week's Bonds conference from hearing the gospel according to Drori at the Dead Sea, which disappointed many of the delegates who had heard his canal-routers in the U.S.

SOME BONDS officials defend using Drori and his arguments for the canal's potential on the grounds that it has been good for "marketing" the project, even if what he says isn't substantiated. The following syllogism suggests itself: the canal is good for Israel; the gospel according to Drori is good for the canal; hence Drori's claims are good for Israel.

This may have been true to some extent in the last two years, when it was important to generate initial interest in the project. But in the future, when the government and possibly also the Bonds will be seeking investment capital tied specifically to the MDP, this approach can only backfire.

Serious investors are likely to make serious inquiries into the project's potential, and when they ask the experts, which they inevitably will, the answers they will get are likely to diverge considerably from Drori's claims. The credibility of the project and the government will be damaged, and word will get around that the potential of the MDP is about the same as that of patent medicine.

The problem of over-selling the canal unfortunately extends beyond what may be called the Drori syndrome. In the "canal mythology" which has emerged in Bonds circles over the last two years, it is now commonly accepted that the hydroelectric plant will provide "20 per cent of Israel's future energy needs." This, at any rate, is what a number of conference delegates told me when I asked them what they had been told about the project's energy potential. An even higher figure was used on this Friday night's newsmagazine on Israel Television.

The figure of 20 per cent is a serious distortion of the facts, which are indeed complicated and probably difficult to explain at your average Bonds dinner.

There are several ways one can assess the direct energy benefits of the project. One is as a percentage of the country's total electricity consumption for a given year. When calculating this figure, one has to deduct the electricity required for pumping the Mediterranean water up from the sea and across the Negev. Thus when the project starts up in about nine years, it will provide about seven per cent of the country's total consumption.

Another way to assess the benefits is to calculate the installed capacity of the power plant as a percentage of the country's total generating capacity. The figure here is 17 per cent, which sounds better but can also be misleading. We must remember that the hydroelectric plant will not be using its 800 megawatts capacity 24 hours a day, but only for about 45 hours a week. Thus the full capacity of the plant will not be used, except as a strategic reserve when regular power plants malfunction.

Continuing our climb down from the figure of 20 per cent, we should note that the contribution of the power plant will steadily decline over the years. The plant's net output will decline after the first 20 years because the amount of water poured through it thereafter must be reduced. More water means more electricity, but this would raise the Dead Sea level above what is viewed as the optimal level of 393 metres below sea level.

Furthermore, the contribution of the plant as a percentage of total capacity will decline simply because overall capacity will continue to ex-

pand from future coal-fire and perhaps nuclear power plants.

This brief explanation of the canal's energy benefits doesn't give the whole picture either, but should be sufficient to demonstrate that impressive but misleading figures can be easily pulled out of a hat by canal promoters eager to score points with unsophisticated audiences.

Another major pitfall in assessing the benefits of the MDP that needs airing is the question of its economic viability, which was strangely absent from the conference's deliberations. This is even more questionable considering that the final feasibility studies were recently completed. Their conclusions were available, theoretically at least, to the conference.

But not even the press was able to get a glimpse of the calculations, considerations and recommendations that went into the Energy Ministry's conclusion that the project is profitable, and by a \$400m. margin at that.

ENERGY MINISTER Yitzhak Moda'i released this figure last week at a press conference only three weeks after he had told me in an interview that from an economic point of view the project was only a break-even proposition. At last week's press conference he first backtracked then confirmed that he had indeed made this earlier assessment.

How is this possible? How can a \$400m. profit, mainly from direct energy benefits, appear as if out of nowhere within three weeks?

By raising these questions I am not insinuating that the minister was lying or that he is incompetent. They are useful, though, for drawing attention to a fact that is not widely understood: the profit or loss potential of ambitious energy projects that will be implemented years in the future is difficult if not impossible to determine with precision.

Cost-benefit analyses of the type done on the MDP must rest on certain assumptions made by the planners about what future economic conditions are likely to be. The most important of these assumptions in the case of energy projects is of course the future cost of the oil or coal saved by alternate sources of energy, in this case hydroelectric power. If oil prices in real terms rise during the next decade, and stay high during most of the project's lifetime (about 50 years), then the MDP will most likely show a profit. If oil prices start a downturn in the near future and stay down, then profitability estimates will nose-dive into a sea of red ink.

There are other factors too, like interest rates on the capital to be invested in the project, which must somehow be estimated and put into the calculations. Future oil prices, however, are the main imponderable, and only a fool would attempt to make precise predictions about how they will behave over the next decade. The canal planners have adopted what they consider to be reasonable assumptions about oil prices, but these will probably have to be revised several times over the years.

In short, different sets of assumptions about economic conditions affecting the MDP in the future may lead to different conclusions about its economic viability. It was probably for that reason that the Energy Ministry wanted the public — and the Bonds leaders — to see only one set of projections for the canal — the ones showing a \$400m. profit. Documentary evidence that the canal may only break even under certain conditions was best kept out of the glare of publicity.

One could almost formulate a rule about canal rhetoric: evocations of Herzl, and the satellite projects of the MDP are heard in inverse proportion to hard-nosed analyses of the direct costs and benefits of the project. This rule was certainly borne out last week during the Bonds tour of the future site of the hydroelectric plant. Neither the minister, the MDP company director nor the chairman of the MDP board had anything to say about economic viability.

On the other hand, excessive tribute was paid to the astonishing foresight of the founder of Zionism, who envisioned the possibility of the canal. Much was also heard of the projects that may be made possible by the canal, such as cooling for inland power plants in the Negev, industrial parks, tourist lakes, marine agriculture and so forth. Most of the conference delegates do not distinguish between the MDP and the satellite projects, although the latter exist only on paper. Planning for these projects has not even reached the feasibility stage, and no one knows if most of them are really viable.

At the Bonds ceremony dedicating the exploratory tunnel a scroll containing the names of 61 "canal founders" was placed in a metal canister and buried at the site. Over the spot of the "en-sconement," as the conference organizers insisted on calling it, is a black granite marker oddly resembling a tombstone. It occurred to me, cynical journalist that I am, that if the price of oil goes down to \$20 a barrel, the Bonds leaders can return to the site each year to hold *yahrzeit* for the project.

I shared this heretical thought with one of the project planners, and a troubled look crept over his face. But his eyes suddenly brightened and he shot back: "But then we'd have enough money to pay for the project!"

Now it may seem to be bad form to raise such problems, even humorously, lest it dampen the enthusiasm of Bonds buyers who have come to believe in the canal as the path to a revitalized Zionism and to a revived Bonds organization as well. But does this mean that these delegates, who excel in business and the professions in their home countries, must suspend their critical faculties when dealing with a complicated project like the MDP?

Perhaps the unwritten rule that guides much of the activity of Diaspora missions to Israel will continue to prevail: they provide the "bread," and we provide the circus. It would be a shame for Israel and its dedicated supporters abroad if the start that has been taken in this unfortunate direction with the MDP would be allowed to continue, particularly in the case of a project that does have the potential to make a contribution to Israel's future.

The writer is a member of the Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

READERS' LETTERS

DIVINE PURPOSE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Mr. Mordechai Nisan (18 January) appears to suggest, in effect, that "What is good for the goose is bad for the gander," and seeks justification for this curious anomaly in a "Divine Purpose." No one would wish to argue against "Divine Purpose"; but only against a one-sided perception of this "Purpose," based upon subjective considerations.

Thus "Western liberal thought" and the "Democratic age" are not accidents of history; they reflect decades of human travail, and hard won achievement, earned in response, one dares to assume to the same imperative of "Divine Purpose." Jews all over the world, and Jews throughout the ages, played a great role in furthering this civilizing process; and when it lapsed and parts of Europe plunged into darkness, Jews more than others suffered the direct conse-

quences. Therefore, to claim other criteria for "non-Jews" in Palestine, is with respect to adopt an interpretation of "Tora teaching" which would be inconsistent with the real Tora tradition to which I, as an Arab, Moslem or Christian, am heir.

Thus to me, also of the "Seed of Abraham," the basic significance of Abraham's life is that he first recognized and accepted the one God, the God of the universe. Therefore, the Quran calls him "The First Moslem" with no ethnic, or sectarian connotations, and, while I do not expect Mr. Nissim to share with me this perception, I personally find it a perception which is less difficult to reconcile, when freed from temporary political overtones, with "Divine Purpose" and the ongoing human endeavour to meet this "Purpose."

ANWAR NUSSEIBEH
Jerusalem.

FAMILY PLANNING

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — On January 16, Charles Hoffman reported on plans of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to start an experimental counselling programme to warn women with unwanted pregnancies of the risks posed by abortions. "The counselling is to be based on the premise that a woman has the right to decide the fate of the pregnancy, but should do so only with full knowledge of the medical and personal consequences of abortion," writes Hoffman.

On this same premise, the counselling should warn women of the risks of childbirth, which — as shown by a U.S. study of 73,000 women (no comparable studies have been conducted in Israel) — are greater in almost every respect than the risks of legal abortion.

Shimon Yair, director of the ministry's demographic centre, is

quoted as saying that "there are women who want to abort just because they have to prepare for a test at the university or want to travel abroad." But there are also women — probably many more than in the categories noted by Yair — who have babies only because they do not understand how to prevent conception. Many of these babies grow up to be burdens on the nation as welfare cases and "culturally disadvantaged" children.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs should reconsider its priorities in allocating our tax money for counselling programmes, and should opt for broadening family planning services, so that Israeli families can learn how to have the number of children they want when they want them.

ESTHER HECHT
Jerusalem.

HOMES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — The American Field Service Organization in Israel is planning to bring over students, ages 16 to 18, from the United States for a period of five to 10 months (some of them Jews). The students will be placed in Israeli homes — in towns, moshavim or kibbutzim — and will attend high-schools or ulpanim.

We are looking for volunteer families who are willing to host these students and at the same time

enjoy the experience of a foreign youth in their home. The American students are carefully screened before arriving in Israel.

Families from all over the country, who are interested, will get detailed information when applying in writing to our office: AFS, 98 Arlozorov St., Tel Aviv 62097.

SHULAMITH KENNETH
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Tel Aviv.

PS. THE SUNNY ISLES, Florida Civic Association recently spent 2 1/2 months collecting five tons of food and

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clothing to donate to Israel, only to be told the country doesn't want it. "I'm disappointed. I've never had an experience like this," said Charles Skupsky, president of the charity drive in this small city just north of Miami Beach. "A lot of time was put in for this purpose. I didn't run a drive to give it to the Salvation Army or the Jewish Home for the Aged," he said.

Oded Ben-Hur, Israeli vice-consul in Miami, said that in recent months Israel has been flooded with contributions and, temporarily, will not accept donations, except for cash.

"I don't think it's a lost cause," he said. He said the Civic Association could sell the goods and contribute money, or arrange for private shipment.

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